

1 CLAIMS

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3 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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5 1. A method for providing a visitor safe wireless printer
6 access point, the method comprising:

7 connecting a wireless computing device to a wireless
8 network, where the wireless network provides a public
9 access point to a print spooling device;

10 determining all available printers in a secure wired
11 network;

12 selecting one of available printers for printing;

13 establishing a print path through the spooling device
14 to the selected printer;

15 sending a print job via the wireless network to the
16 spooling device;

17 spooling the print job on the spooling device; and

18 sending the print job via the secure wired network to
19 the selected printer.

20

21 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the print job is split
22 into network packets and transmitted to the spooling
23 device, if the packets are allowed packets.

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1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the packets are checked
2 by the public access point device.

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4 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
5 in response to receipt of an allowed packet by the
6 spooling device, launching a print web page that shows at
7 least one available printer in the secure wired network.

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9 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
10 if the packet is not an allowed packet, then
11 preventing the mobile wireless device from accessing a
12 secure device in the secured wired network.

13

14 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the action of
15 determining all available printers in a secure wired
16 network comprises:
17 starting a utility application in the wireless device,
18 where the utility application comprises a browser that is
19 directed to the spooling device.

20

21 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the action of
22 determining all available printers in a secure wired
23 network comprises:

1 starting a utility application in the wireless device,
2 where the utility application comprises a network printer
3 application that is configured to discover the available
4 printers through the spooling device.

5

6 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
7 downloading a printer driver from the spooling device
8 to the wireless device; and
9 initiating the printer driver in the wireless device.

10

11 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
12 relaying a print job status from the printer, via the
13 secure wired network, to the spooling device; and
14 relaying the print job status from the spooling
15 device, via the wireless network, to the wireless device.

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17 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless network is
18 a wireless PRINT network.

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20 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the wireless PRINT
21 network is a public access point to at least one print
22 spooling device.

23

1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the spooling device is
2 configured to act as a bridge to send print jobs from the
3 wireless device to the selected printer.

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5 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the spooling device is
6 configured to act as a firewall to prevent access to a
7 secure device in the secured wired network.

8

9 14. An apparatus for providing a visitor safe wireless
10 printer access point, the apparatus comprising:

11 means connecting a wireless computing device to a
12 wireless network;

13 means for transmitting the packet to a spooling
14 device, if the packet is an allowed packet;

15 means for downloading a printer driver and a printer
16 driver information to the wireless computing device, and
17 initializing the printer driver; and

18 means for using the wireless computing device to print
19 via the available printer in the secure wired network.

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21 15. An apparatus for permitting print operations from a
22 network printer in a secure wired network, the apparatus
23 comprising:

1 a wireless computing device configured to connect to a
2 wireless network, the wireless network including a public
3 access point;

4 a print spooling device that is accessed from the
5 public access point;

6 wherein a print job is sent from the wireless
7 computing device via the wireless network to the spooling
8 device; and

9 wherein the print job is spooled on the spooling
10 device and the print job is sent via a secure wired network
11 to a selected printer.

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13 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the print job is
14 split into network packets and transmitted to the spooling
15 device, if the packets are allowed packets.

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17 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the packets are
18 checked by the public access point.

19

20 18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the spooling device
21 is configured to launch a print web page that shows at
22 least one available printer in the secure wired network, in
23 response to receipt of an allowed packet by the spooling
24 device.

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2 19. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the mobile wireless
3 device is prevented from accessing a secure device in the
4 secured wired network, if the packet is not an allowed
5 packet.

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7 20. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the mobile wireless
8 device is configured to start a utility application, where
9 the utility application comprises a browser that is
10 directed to the spooling device.

11
12 21. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the mobile wireless
13 device is configured to start a utility application, where
14 the utility application comprises a network printer
15 application that is configured to discover the available
16 printers through the spooling device.

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18 22. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the spooling device
19 is configured to download a printer driver to the wireless
20 device, and wherein the printer driver is initiated in the
21 wireless device.

22
23 23. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein a status of the
24 print job is relayed from the printer, via the secure wired

1 network, to the spooling device; and wherein the status of
2 the print job is also relayed from the spooling device, via
3 the wireless network, to the wireless device.

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5 24. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the wireless
6 network is a wireless PRINT network.

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8 25. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the spooling device
9 is configured to act as a bridge to send print jobs from
10 the wireless device to the selected printer.

11

12 26. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the spooling device
13 is configured to act as a firewall to prevent access to a
14 secure device in the secured wired network.

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16 27. An apparatus for providing a visitor safe wireless
17 printer access point, the apparatus comprising:

18 a wireless computing device configured to connect to a
19 wireless network with a printer access point device;

20 a spooling device configured to download a printer
21 driver and a printer driver information to the wireless
22 computing device; and

23 wherein the spooling device is configured to check a
24 packet from the wireless computing device in order to

1 determine if the wireless computing device is attempting to
2 connect to an available printer in a secure wired network,
3 and to transmit the packet to the spooling device if the
4 packet is an allowed packet, so that the wireless computing
5 device can be used to print via the available printer in
6 the secure wired network.

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8 28. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the printer access
9 point device is configured to check standard wireless
10 security settings.

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12 29. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the spooler device
13 is configured to launch a print web page that shows at
14 least one available printer in the secure wired network, in
15 response to receipt of an allowed packet.

16

17 30. The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the printer access
18 point device prevents the mobile wireless device from
19 accessing a secured device in the secured wired network, if
20 the wireless security settings are not correct.

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22 31. An article of manufacture, comprising:

23 a machine-readable medium having stored thereon
24 instructions to:

1 connect a wireless computing device to a wireless
2 network, where the wireless network provides a public
3 access point to a print spooling device;
4 determine all available printers in a secure wired
5 network;
6 select one of available printers for printing;
7 establish a print path through the spooling device to
8 the selected printer;
9 send a print job via the wireless network to the
10 spooling device, where the print job is spooled in a
11 spooling device and sent via the secured wired network to
12 the selected printer.